



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **HIRAI et al.**

Serial No.: **09/773,598**

Filed: **February 2, 2001**

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Group Art Unit: **1646**

Examiner: **Janet L. Andres**

#5
19.3
3/27/02

For: **ADSORBENT FOR TRANSFORMING GROWTH FACTOR- β , METHOD FOR REMOVING THE TRANSFORMING GROWTH FACTOR- β BY ADSORPTION AND ADSORBER PACKED WITH THE ADSORBENT**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: March 22, 2002

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated February 26, 2002.

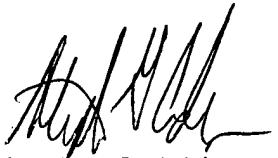
In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), 1-3 and 5 drawn to adsorbents; and Group (II), claim 4 drawn to a method of protein extraction.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (II), claim 4 for prosecution in this application. This election is made with traverse, it being understood that the applicant's right to the filing of a Divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC §120 and 35 USC §121 is retained.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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Atty. Docket No. **010105**

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